Claims:

1. Use of an IPG antagonist in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of conditions mediated by the release of IPGs from mast cells, basophils or eosinophils.

2. The use of claim 1 wherein the condition mediated by release of IPGs is atopic dermatitis, food hypersensitivity, allergies including seasonal, contact, drug, pollen, insect allergies, asthma (early and late phase), allergic interstitial pneumonitis, eczema, environmental lung disease, or another disorders mediated by infiltration of mast cells, basophils or eosinophils, or cells within their respective lineages.

3. The use of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the IPG antagonist is an anti-IPG antibody.

4. The use of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the IPG antagonist is a substance capable of inhibiting or preventing IPG release in mast cells, basophils or eosinophils in response to an allergen.

5. The use of claim 4 wherein the antagonist is an inhibitor of the enzyme GPI-PLD.

6. The use of claim 5 wherein the antagonist is an antibody capable of inhibiting IPG release by inhibiting cleavage of the IPGs caused by the enzyme GPI-PLD.

7. The use of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the IPG antagonist is a competitive antagonists of the IPGs

released from mast cells, basophils or eosinophils.

8. The use of claim 7 wherein when the medicament is used to treat a human patient, the competitive IPG antagonist is an IPG derived from a non-human species.

9. The use of claim 8 wherein the antagonist is A-type IPG as obtainable from rat liver.

10. An inositolphosphoglycan (IPG) as obtainable from mast cells, basophils or eosinophils which is capable of causing histamine release from mast cells, basophils or eosinophils.

11. An inositolphosphoglycan (IPG) as obtainable from mast cells, basophils or eosinophils which is capable of causing histamine release from mast cells, basophils or eosinophils for use in a method of screening for antagonists of said IPG.